

F-8-92

Biehl-Koons Farm

Ladiesburg, Maryland

Private

The Biehl-Koons Farm includes a dated 1825 stone dwelling house and a 1919 frame bank barn with elaborately silhouetted vents. Construction techniques of the early 19th century and the early 20th century are exemplified in the house and the barn.

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Biehl-Koons Farm
Ladiesburg
Frederick County

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont
(Harford, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Howard, Montgomery
Counties, and Baltimore City)

Chronological/Development Period:
Agricultural-Industrial Transition 1815-1870 A.D.
Industrial/Urban Dominance 1870-1930 A.D.

Prehistoric/Historic Period Themes:
Agriculture
Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Community Planning

Resource Type:
Category: Buildings

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function and Use:
Domestic/single dwelling/residence
Agriculture/Subsistence/animal facility/barn
Agriculture/Subsistence/agricultural outbuilding

Known Design Source: None

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Biehl-Koons Farm

and/or common George A. Nicholson Farm

2. Location

street & number 11802 Nicholson Road not for publication

city, town Ladiesburg vicinity of congressional district 6th

state Maryland county Frederick

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name George A. Nicholson

street & number 11802 Nicholson Road telephone no.:

city, town Detour state and zip code Md. 21725

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Courthouse liber

street & number 100 W. Patrick Street folio

city, town Frederick state Md. 21701

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

repository for survey records

city, town _____ state _____

7. Description

Survey No. F-8-92

Condition

excellent

good

fair

deteriorated

ruins

unexposed

Check one

unaltered

altered

Check one

original site

moved

date of move

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Contributing Resource Count: 10

(Typed on separate sheet)

8. Significance

Survey No. F-8-92

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1825; 1919 **Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
and/or
Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G

Level of Significance: national state local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

(Typed on separate sheet)

7.1 Description

The Biehl-Koons Farm is an agricultural grouping consisting of an 1825 stone two-story dwelling house, a frame bank barn built in 1919, a circa 1920 frame dairy and seven concrete block or metal-sided agricultural outbuildings which date from the early 1950's to the 1980's. The grouping is located on the northeast side of Nicholson Road about 1/4 mile from the intersection of Woodsboro Pike (Maryland Route 194). The complex is at the end of a long gravel driveway lined partially with catalpa trees.

The principal building in the grouping is the dwelling house, a two-story, five-bay house with coursed rubble stone walls, a rear ell with a 1919 brick addition and interior end chimneys. A one-story porch of mid 20th century construction has cast iron columns, probably replacing wood columns. The roof is slate. The center entrance has an arched fan light and a Victorian period door with a central glass oval. The windows are 2/2. A carved marble date stone is set in the north gable of the house. The stone was not originally in this location, but, having been found on the property, was set in by the current owners during a repointing done in the 1980's.

The rear ell was built out in 1919 with an addition constructed of clay tiles made on the farm, according to the present owner. This squared off the floor plan and added space to the original three-room plan for a modernized kitchen. The exterior of the 1919 addition was covered with stone veneer in the 1980's. Also in 1919, a new staircase was built in the same location as the original, but with a dog-leg to the left. A one-story screened porch on the south elevation of the 1919 addition has a composition roof, as does the porch on the front elevation.

OUTBUILDINGS:

Bank barn: The 1919 frame bank barn is located south of the house. It has a stone foundation, a slate gable roof and elaborately silhouetted vent decorations. A concrete block milk storage building is attached to the southwest corner of the barn. A concrete silo stands next to the south entrance to the barn floor.

Dairy: This 1920's frame building has german siding and a corrugated sheet metal roof with a projecting hood over the south elevation door. The building apparently functioned as a milk storage building prior to the construction of the concrete block addition to the barn.

Tractor shed: This is a rectangular open-sided, concrete block shed for equipment and farm vehicles. It appears to date from the 1950's.

Agricultural outbuilding: The use of this concrete block outbuilding is unknown, but may be a calf shed or loafing shed.

Other outbuildings: Two modern metal-sided sheds, a pair of metal silos, and a third metal shed are also located within the agricultural group.

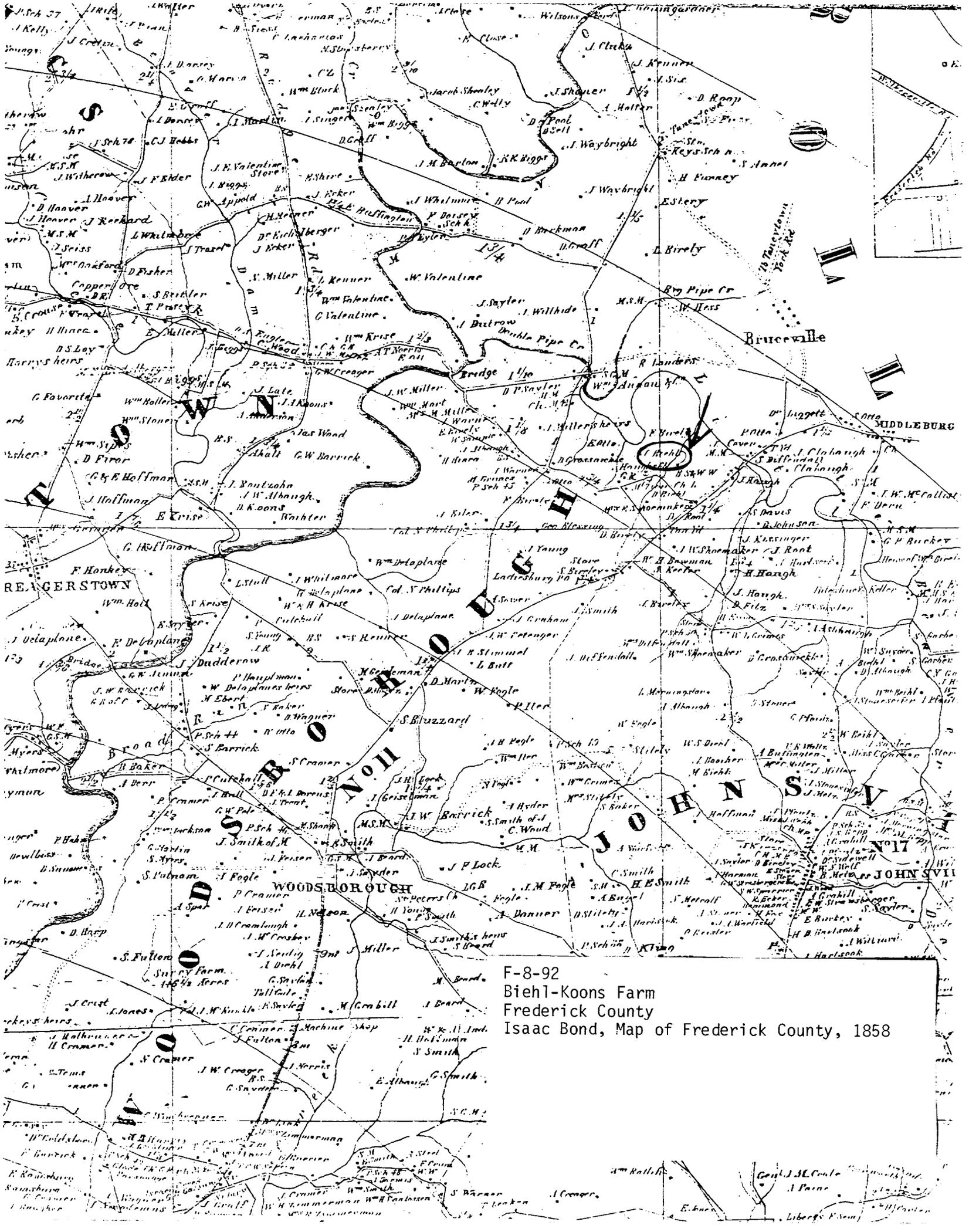
Biehl-Koons Farm
Frederick County

Survey No. F-8-92

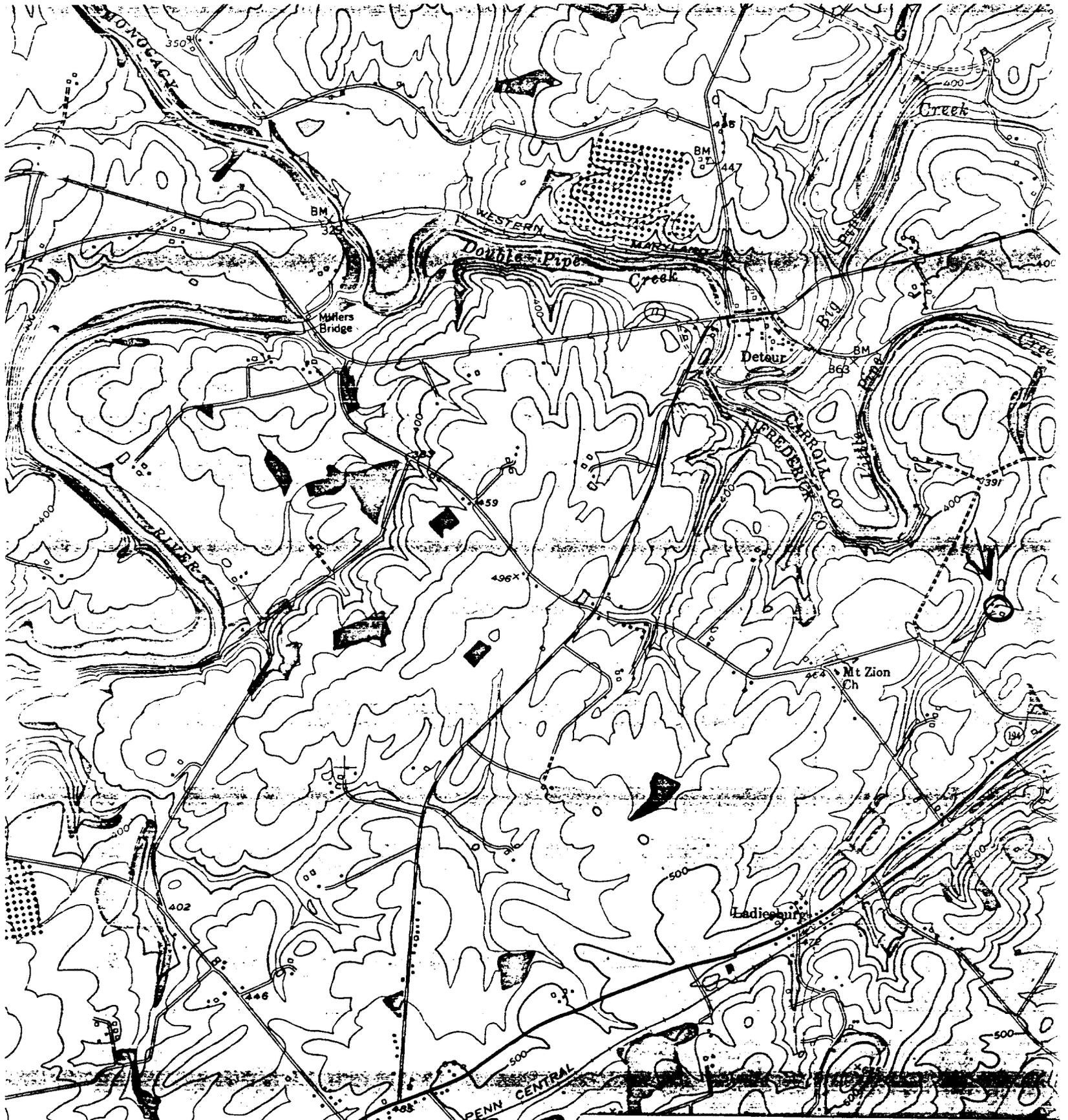
8.1 Significance:

The Biehl-Koons Farm contains two good examples of vernacular architecture of different time periods and building types. The 1825 stone dwelling house is a reasonably well-preserved representative of the period. The 1919 frame bank barn illustrates the survival of late 19th century barn plans and construction methods into the early 20th century. Compared to farm complexes in the Walkersville region, the group as a whole is a fair example of an early 19th century farm with additions appropriate to modern agricultural methods. None of the domestic outbuildings contemporary with the house have survived and most of the 19th century agricultural buildings are also gone or replaced.

The farm appears on the 1858 map of Frederick County as "A. Biehl", of whom no historical information has yet been found. George U. Koons was the owner from 1902 to 1935 and was responsible for the major changes to the dwelling house and the construction of the barn.



F-8-92
Biehl-Koons Farm
Frederick County
Isaac Bond, Map of Frederick County, 1858



F-8-92
Biehl-Koons Farm
Frederick County
USGS Woodsboro, Md. quad
1:24000



F-8-92

Biehl-Koons Farm

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

March 1991

Neg. loc.: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, MD

House, southwest elevation

1/3



F-8-92

Biehl-Koons Farm

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

March 1991

Neg. loc.: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, MD

Boon, view from north

2/3



F-8-92

Biehl-Koons Farm

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

March 1991

Dep. loc.: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, MD

Dairy, south elevation

3/3